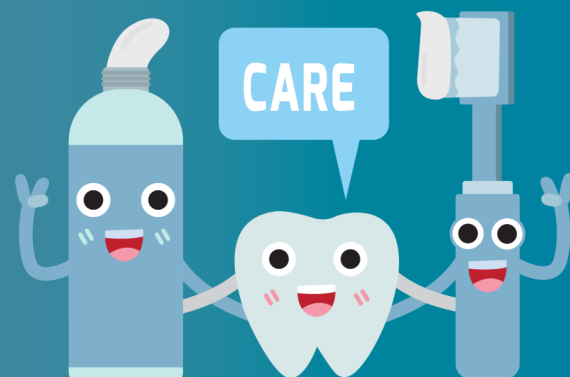


Kansas Department of Health and Environment

Bureau of Oral Health

Newsletter | Issue 15 | Summer 2021



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A Big Thank You!



Dr. Dayna Brinckman

Dear Oral Health Partners,

I just wanted to take a moment and thank you all for your outstanding efforts, support and dedication over the past 12 months. We have experienced one of the largest health related challenges in recent times.

As we move past this pandemic, it's important to focus on all that we have learned and strive to address the many opportunities for improvement that have come forth this past year. Our goals can no longer be to simply maintain the status quo or to only consider previous options because those goals weren't enough to get us through the past 12 months and they won't be enough moving forward.

It took innovative and out of the box ideas along with progressive initiatives and resourcefulness to push us through this pandemic. It will be those same attributes that will guide Oral Health programs to re-energize, regroup and refocus as we move towards truly making a difference for our patients, our Dental Providers, our staff, our programs and our communities.

Thank you,

ADA, others support legislation to incentivize dentists to enter HIV workforce

HELP Act would offer up to \$250,000 in loan repayment (April 21, 2021)

In an April 14 letter to Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester, D-Del., the groups, led by the HIV Medicine Association, thanked the lawmaker for introducing legislation to ensure there are clinicians to care for patients with HIV.

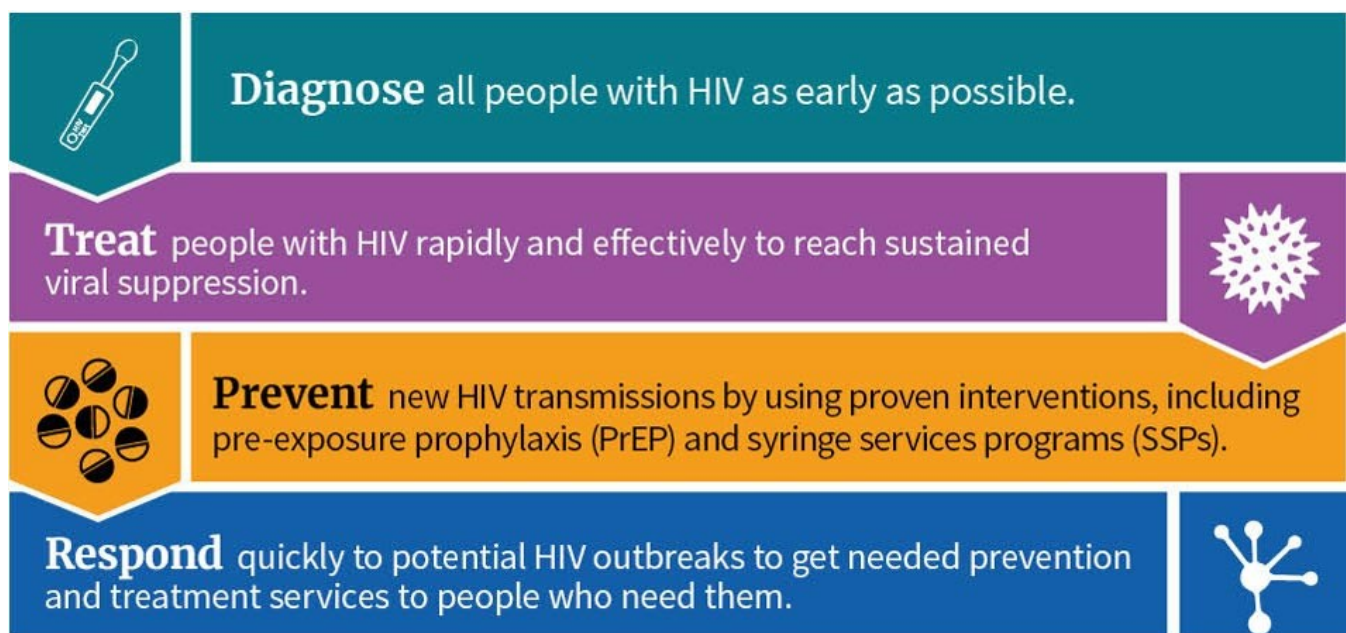
HR 2295, the HIV Epidemic Loan-Repayment Program Act, or HELP Act, would offer up to \$250,000 in educational loan repayment to physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, clinical pharmacists and dentists in exchange for up to five years of service at Ryan White-funded clinical sites and in health profession shortage areas.

“At this pivotal time, we have the tools to end HIV as an epidemic in the U.S. and a federal initiative and a plan to do so,” the letter concluded. “The HELP Act is critical to reverse workforce shortages that are particularly acute in the southern U.S and further exacerbated as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Read the full letter here: www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Advocacy/Files/210414_HELP_Act_Support_Letter.pdf?la=en

PLan to end the HIV epidemic in the United States:

Informatic from HIV.gov ([Overview](#) | [HIV.gov](#))



In March 2021, the CDC released a scientific statement naming community fluoridated water one of the ten great public health achievements of the 20th century. The evidence supports community water fluoridation is an effective, cost-saving, and safe intervention.

“Community water fluoridation is “the controlled addition of a fluoride compound to a public water supply to achieve a concentration optimal for dental caries prevention.”¹ The process of adding fluoride to public water systems in the United States began in 1945 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Soon after, dramatic declines in dental caries were noted among school children in Grand Rapids compared with school children from surrounding areas. Since then, community water fluoridation has been adopted by communities across the country, providing the cornerstone of caries prevention in the United States.¹ In 2018, more than 200 million people, or 73.0% of the U.S. population served by public water supplies, had access to water with fluoride levels that prevent tooth decay. “

Access the full statement here:

www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/guidelines/cdc-statement-on-community-water-fluoridation.html

The Bureau of Oral Health welcomes two new employees



Debra J. Trybom, RDH, ECP III

Outreach Dental Hygienist

Debra started with the Bureau in September 2020. She worked in a community hospital for 17 years before becoming a dental hygienist. Debra has worked in both private practice and public health as an ECP hygienist. She has a passion for public health and believes in early prevention and medical-dental integration.

Debra is an active member of the American Dental Hygienists Association serving as Secretary of the

Eastern Kansas branch.

James M. Francis, MPH

Epidemiologist

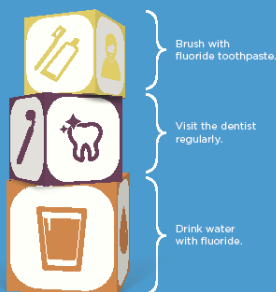


James joined the bureau in May 2021. He splits his time between the Bureaus of Oral Health and Disease Control and Prevention.

“Hi! I’m James. I moved to Kansas in 2019 after graduating with my Masters in Public Health and landing a job as the Data Analyst for the Bureau of Family Health Cross Cutting Unit. I worked with this amazing team for two years, answering questions, providing tables and graphs, frequencies and counts and helping wherever I could, before moving into the position

I’m in now; the Epidemiologist for Bureau of Oral Health and Bureau of Disease Control and Prevention STI/HIV. I love history and science and collect books (biology/natural science prior to 1950). I also do some wood working in my spare time, though I should probably complete one project before I retire from public service. I live with my supportive wife Rose, super hyper dog, Angel, and floofster cat, Pixie.”

WATER WITH FLUORIDE BUILDS A FOUNDATION FOR HEALTHY TEETH



In fact, drinking water with fluoride can reduce cavities by about 25 percent, saving you and your family time and money in dental visits and costs. Adding fluoride to drinking water has been shown to be safe for over 75 years.

Be sure you and your family drink water with fluoride to build a strong foundation for your teeth.

Visit www.CDC.gov/Fluoridation



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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The Kansas School Oral Health Screening Report

The pandemic greatly impacted school districts across our state and took a significant toll to oral health screening programs. A special “thank you” to all oral health outreach programs that were

Preliminary Data For School Year 2020-21

Kansas 2020			
Condition	Number Of Students	Percent Of Students	Current Enrollment Information
Untreated Decay Yes	10649	16.63	
Untreated Decay No	53393	83.37	Total Enrolled
Treated Decay Yes	24096	37.63	506217
Treated Decay No	39946	62.37	
Sealants Present Yes *	14905	37.12	Free / Reduced Lunch
Sealants Present No *	25251	37.12	247897
Urgent Care Needed	1659	2.59	
Total Number Of Students Screened	64042		Free / Reduced Lunch %
* data reported on grades 3rd-12th only	40156		48.97

2020-2021 Kansas School Sealant Program

School sealant programs were limited in their capacity this school year due to the pandemic but some programs were still able to accomplish the following:

- **4240** screenings for the sealant program
- **539** children had sealants placed
- **2523** teeth were sealed
- **2504** fluoride varnishes were placed
- **1581** prophylaxis were provided

Kansas Oral Health Survey data is available on the Bureau of Oral Health website

The Kansas Oral Health Survey was conducted between January 2018 and December 2019 and screened children in third grade from a representative sample of public elementary schools in Kansas.

To view the entire survey visit: <https://www.kdheks.gov/ohi/index.html>. Thank you to all the participants who helped with this survey.

Kansas Medical Assistance Program (KMAP) bulletin

Effective with dates of service on and after January 1, 2021, Medicaid members ages 0 to 20 and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) members ages 0 to 18 will have coverage for Silver Diamine Fluoride (SDF) Treatment. Coverage is twice in a calendar year at the current Medicaid rate with a limit of 6 applications per lifetime per tooth.

Note: The effective date of the policy is January 1, 2021, the implementation of State policy by the KanCare managed care organizations (MCOs) may vary from the date noted in the Kansas Medical Assistance Program (KMAP) bulletins. The KanCare Open Claims Resolution Log on the KMAP Bulletins page documents the MCO system status for policy implementation and any associated reprocessing completion

News From Our Partners



The Kansas Dental Charitable Foundation (KDCF) is pleased to announce that the previously postponed 2021 Kansas Mission of Mercy (KMOM) free dental clinic has been rescheduled for July 23-24 at Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center in Wichita. Volunteer registration will open online roughly 6 weeks prior to KMOM Wichita. Dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, dental office staff, translators, and general volunteers will be needed.

Register here: www.ksdentalfoundation.org/volunteer-registration-is-now-open-for-kmom-wichita/



The Community Care Network of Kansas Annual Conference, September 20-23, 2021, "Emerging Stronger Together," will be presented virtually. We have confirmed Kim Perry, DDS, Associate Vice President University Strategic Partnerships, AT Still University, and Clinton Normore, MBA, VP of Diversity and Inclusion, AT Still

University, to present a session on Ethical Decision-making. We have also confirmed Richard Carmona, MD, MPH, FACS, Former US Surgeon General; Laura van Dernoot Lipsky, founder and director of The Trauma Stewardship; Jean Hall, PhD, KU Life Span Institute and others for what promises to be a robust conference filled with exceptional general and breakout sessions. Contact Melody Martin at mmartin@communitycareks.org for more information.



2021 marks a special anniversary for the Kansas Dental Association. The KDA was organized 150 years ago!

The first organizational meeting of the Kansas State Dental Society was attended by 6 dentists on May 4, 1871 in Lawrence, Kansas. At a later meeting held in Topeka on September 14, 1871, Dr. J.B. Wheeler (Lawrence) would be elected president of the fledgling organization, and an organizational constitution and bylaws, as well as a code of ethics, were adopted. The first official annual meeting of the Kansas State Dental Association was held in Lawrence on May 5-8, 1872. At that meeting, Dr. Wheeler was reelected KSDA president, a position he would continue to hold until May 1874 when Dr. W.F. Griswold was elected.

While the 2021 Midwest Dental Conference and KDA Annual Meeting were moved to a virtual format this year, plans are underway to celebrate 150 years of the KDA in-person at the spring 2022 conference. Look for details to be announced during the next year.



Upcoming Events

Kansas Dental Hygiene Association Annual Meeting

September 11

This year, the KDHA is hosting Katrina Sanders, BSDH, Med, RF on Saturday, September 11th at the Holiday Inn East in Wichita, KS. There will be lots of door prizes, friends/networking, exhibitors, samples, and most importantly FUN!

Register via CE Zoom: <https://www.cezoom.com/registration/?conf=852>

Community Care Network of Kansas Virtual Conference

September 20-23

If you would like to sponsor/exhibit or register to attend the conference please contact Melody Martin at 785-233-8483 or email at mmartin@communitycareks.org.

2021 ADA Annual Conference

October 11-13

Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino
Las Vegas

Registration to open June 23rd, for more information please visit:
<https://smilecon.org/en/Registration>

Conference on Oral Health

Virtual November 4-5

Oral Health Kansas is currently taking sign ups for exhibitors. If you are interested in signing up to exhibit or to sponsor the conference, contact us at info@oralhealthkansas.org to learn more!

Looking for dental providers!

We are currently recruiting dentists and ECP dental hygienists to help complete school-based dental screenings across the state of Kansas. In the 2019/2020 school year, only 29% of students enrolled in Kansas public schools received a dental screening. This data is crucial to improving oral health equity across our state and you have an opportunity to make a difference.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please

Thank
You

The Bureau of Oral Health wishes to thank all the Dentists and Dental Hygienists, Parent Volunteers, School Nurses, Screeners and others that have contributed their valuable time and efforts towards providing better oral health among children in Kansas.

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